



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Ryoji WATANABE et al.

Group Art Unit: 2135

Application No.: 10/647,528

Examiner: J. PAN

Filed: August 26, 2003

Docket No.: 116871

For: IMAGE FORMING SYSTEM AND IMAGE FORMING METHOD

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the November 1, 2006 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks. Claims 1-14 remain pending in this application.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito (U.S. Patent No. 6,525,836 B2) in view of Yasakura (U.S. Patent No. 6,990,588 B1). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Ito and Yasakura, either individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest an image forming section for forming a first image and a second image when the access to the data of the second image is authenticated and for forming the first image in other cases, as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 9, 11, 13 and 14.

Ito in col. 1 lines 35-49 discloses an image synthesizer that uses a template, a composite image, a masked image, a scanner and a memory card. Ito's synthesizer only stores a template, a mask, and image data, which is clearly different than authentication data.